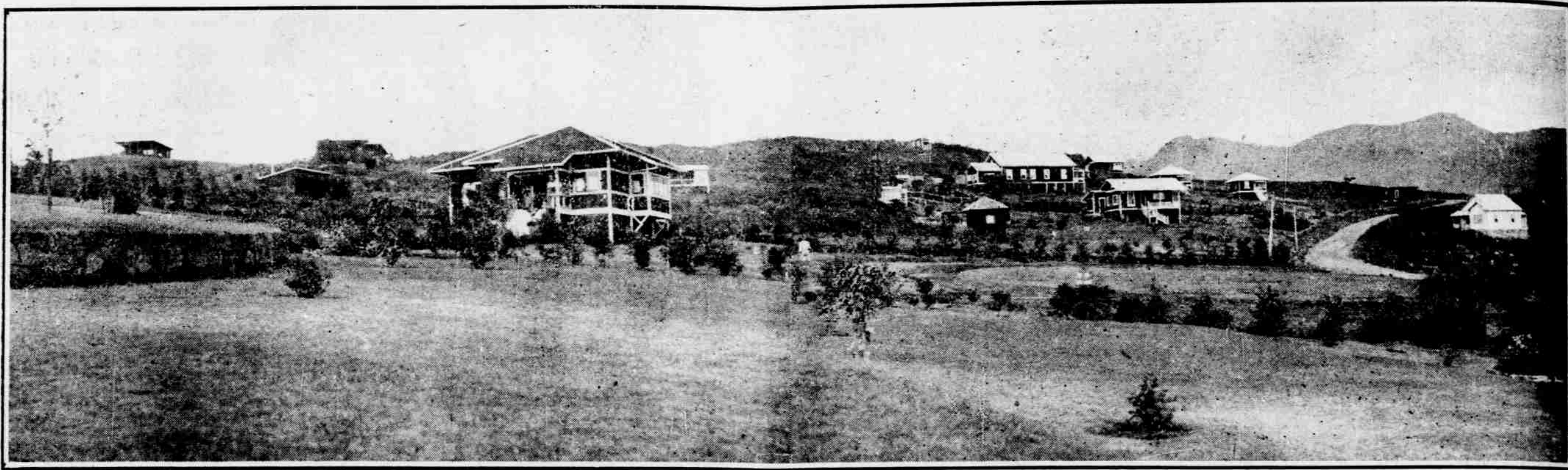


# - Alewa Heights--Honolulu's Youngest Suburb -



Residence of Walter R. Coombs in Left Foreground.

UPPER PORTION, ALEWA HEIGHTS, LOOKING MAUKA.

In all that has been published about the recent growth of Honolulu, very little attention has been given to the newest and one of the most beautiful suburbs, Alewa Heights. It is certain that not one in a dozen people in Honolulu has visited it or realizes what has been accomplished in the three years since the lands of Alewa were opened by the territorial government.

"Do you live on Alewa Heights?" said an old Honolulu resident the other day. "And how do you get down in time for business every day?"

"It takes me just eighteen minutes to come from my front door to my office," the Alewaite replied, "and twelve minutes of that time is spent on the Rapid Transit cars."

"Why, that's quicker than I can come in from Punahou," the old resident exclaimed incredulously. "But it must be very unpleasant living up there without electric lights, or telephones, or gas, or any other conveniences."

The Alewa man chuckled. "Come up and see," he said, and passed on. Such ignorance was not worth enlightenment.

## Thirty Months Old.

It was on July 29, 1907, that the Alewa lands were opened to purchasers. At that time there was no road into the tract. Prospective purchasers were forced to climb up the face of the precipitous bluff which bounds Nuuanu Valley on the western side and scramble through a wilderness of lantana and guava to find the lots which the Territory was offering to home builders. It was a dry, treeless hillside, blessed with a beautiful view, to be sure, but with little else to attract the man who wanted a home near enough to the city so that he might go daily to business. It was only a stone's throw from Honolulu, almost, but without a road the prospect looked not inviting. As a consequence it is not surprising that when the sale of the newly opened lots took place they went for a song. Acre lots, within a mile of the post-office were sold for prices ranging from \$150 to \$500. You could not buy those same lots now for less than ten times the figures paid three years ago.

## Improvement Club Organized.

The first problem to be solved by the lot purchasers was a road. An improvement club was organized within a few days, and although it took some time to unravel the necessary official red tape, within six months a fine macadamized road had been built into the heart of the tract. This road was built out of the money paid by the Alewa people for their lots, with day labor furnished by the county.

Water was the next necessity. The Territory had no money for water pipes, and the legislature would not meet for another two years. This did not daunt the Alewaite.

"If we buy the pipe, will you install it and give us water, and then credit what we paid for the pipe on our water rates?" they asked the government.

"Delighted," was the reply, in the words of a well-known African hunter. So Alewa got its water supply. It was not much, it is true. A two-inch pipe connected with the Alewa quarry, but it sufficed temporarily.

Already the waste of lantana and guava had been swept from the hillside, and here and there little cottages had been built. One ambitious individual even bore up on his own humped back, board by board, the lumber for his home, and before the road was even begun there were several families housed on the hill in temporary homes.

## Has Everything Now.

With a fine road and a fairly good water supply the ordinary homesteaders would have been content. But they were not enough for the Alewa people. They wanted electric lights, and tele-

phones and gas. So they proceeded to get them. It required some argument to convince the public utility companies that they could make money by extending to the Heights. But finally they

## A Good Example.

They have also planned and partly carried out through the work of the club, a complete system of shaded roadways, laid out artistically with poin-

the other improvement clubs to emulate. The report of the retiring president is worth giving in full, as it shows as well as may be the manner in which the Alewa club has helped to build up

The last year has seen continued improvement in our district. All of the lots in what is currently known as the residence district have been built upon and the owners have begun to fulfill

This club was organized within a month of the date of the first sale. It had a successful career, and it is one of the most active improvement clubs in Honolulu. Of all the clubs or more clubs of the kind which were organized a few years ago there are but three still exist, save perhaps its name. And our club is one of the healthiest, liveliest and most successful. One reason for this is that Alewa has needed more than other districts, and hence the club has had to get on and hustle to get the improvements which other districts had already. Another and better reason is that the club is blessed with a number of energetic, ambitious hustling members who have been interested in improving Alewa and anxious to see it become a beautiful suburb and willing to work hard to that end. It is to the efforts of these members that we are indebted for our numerous improvements.

## More to Do.

But the work of the club has not ended yet. We can look about us and point with pride at what we have done, but we must not stop there. There are many things yet to be done before Alewa will be what we all want it to be, the most attractive spot in all Honolulu. We need better roads, and more of them, we need fire protection, (which we shall have shortly, we hope), we want our roads planted with shade trees, we need more lights, an extension of the water system, a high level reservoir. In fact our work has only just begun, for we have just reached the stage where we begin to realize what we need.

With a new set of officers in charge of the club's affairs for the ensuing year a vigorous campaign must be laid out. The legislature will be in session and it will be possible by hard work to secure an appropriation for a road to connect the district with the city, and also to get our high level reservoir. Tree planting along the road should also be begun systematically in many other directions the club must extend its influence for the betterment of the district.

Let us keep up the work so well begun and make Alewa one of the best places of Honolulu. Respectfully submitted,

WADE WARREN THAYER.

The following officers will be in charge of the destinies of Alewa Heights during the next year: President, Will J. Cooper; vice-president, R. H. Trent; secretary, W. J. Coombs; treasurer, Frank D. Coombs; and member of executive committee, Wade Warren Thayer.

## Come On Up.

If you are a motorist and want to explore a new bit of Honolulu, you will find the roads of Alewa as good as any in the city. If you are a pedestrian and want a tramp walk, take a walk up through Alewa, then on up the fine trail along the ridge and back by way of the Coombs Club, and you will find it one of the finest trips about Honolulu.

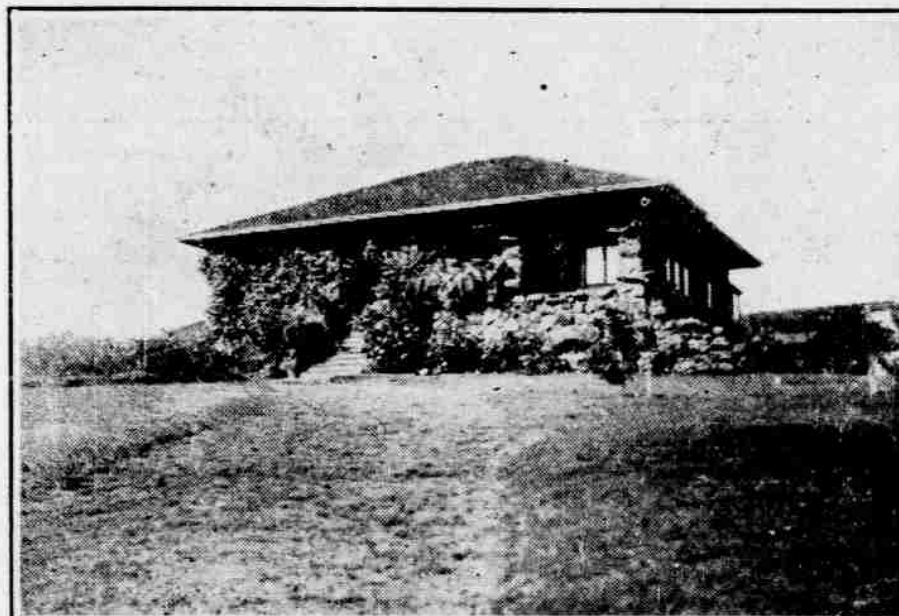
If you are just the ordinary average citizen, but are interested in Honolulu progress, take the Liliha street car one day, get off at Wyllie street and step up the easy grade of the Alewa road. In ten minutes you will stand at the entrance of the tract. Below you is the green loveliness of Nuuanu Valley spread, stretching up to the gap of the Pali. Before you is Honolulu, embowered in trees; the sparkling water of the harbor so near you you almost toss a pebble into it; beyond the shimmering blue fabric of the sea and all the wondrously beautiful features of our island from Diamond Head to the distant Waimanua Hills.

And when you look around at the pretty homes and the green lawns of the Alewa dwellers and feel the fresh air (Continued on Page Six.)

## SOME OF THE NEW HOMES ESTABLISHED ON THE HEIGHTS



RESIDENCE OF HON. W. T. POPE.



RESIDENCE OF MISS M. B. COOMBS.



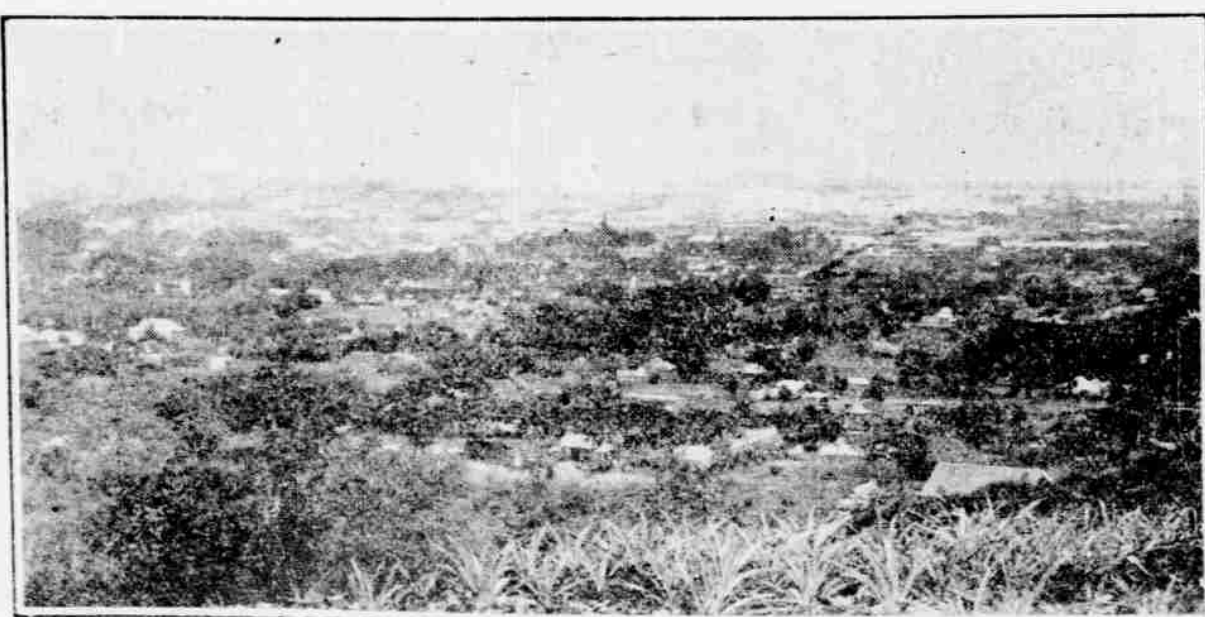
RESIDENCE OF W. J. COOPER.



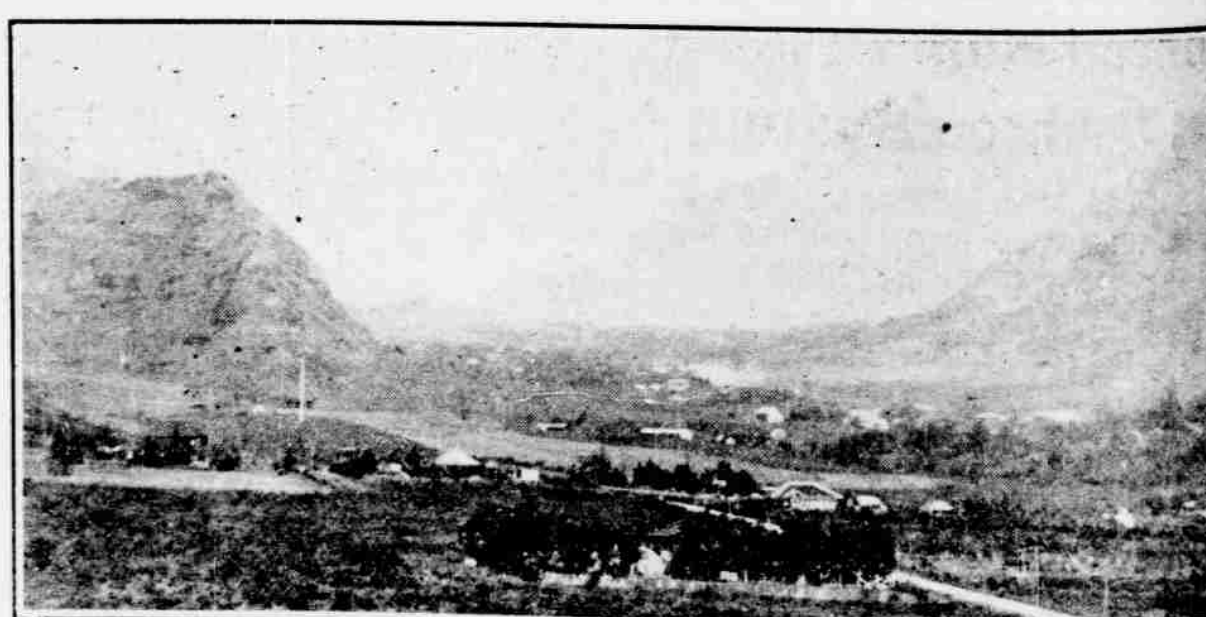
RESIDENCE OF WADE WARREN THAYER.



RESIDENCE OF MISS MILDRED M. YODER.



FROM ALEWA--LOOKING TOWARD THE HARBOR.



FROM ALEWA--LOOKING UP THE VALLEY.